

U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

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FIVE CHARGED IN AGGRAVATED IDENTITY THEFT SCHEME TARGETING ELDERLY VICTIMS

PHILADELPHIA - Acting United States Attorney Laurie Magid announced the filing of a 22 count indictment¹ charging Detoine Davis, Lamar Ross, Sharon Millsaps, Tiffany Allen, and Kaleesha Allen with conspiracy, mail fraud, identity theft involving interstate commerce, aggravated identity theft, and access device fraud.

According to the indictment, between 2004 and December 2007, defendant Detoine Davis telephoned his victims, focusing on the elderly whom he believed to be easier targets. Davis told the victim he was a bank officials or was someone associated with a store or credit card company and that there was a problem with their account. In some cases, it is alleged, while defendant Davis engaged the victim on the telephone, defendant Sharon Millsaps, who was dressed in a security guard uniform, approached the victim's door. She identified herself as being associated with the bank that defendant Davis claimed to represent. Millsaps collected the victim's debit card and claimed that she would correct the problem. Sometimes she handed a debit card back to the victim which the victim believed was his or her card. It was actually a stolen debit card from a preceding victim.

The indictment alleges that in another scheme, Davis would conduct the same telephone scam in order to elicit identifying information from the victims. Davis then contacted the respective credit card issuer with the victim's account information and requested a new credit card in the name of another person and/or asked that the credit card be mailed to a new address that the defendant also requested be added to the account.

"There is no shortage of schemes for identity theft," said Magid. "The best protection is education. Consumers who remain vigilant about the new ways in which thieves are obtaining personal information are less likely to be victimized."

At least 91 individuals were victimized, causing over \$440,000 in loss.

¹An indictment or information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE
Detoine Davis	Philadelphia, PA	23
Lamar Ross	Philadelphia, PA	22
Sharon Millsaps	Philadelphia, PA	37
Tiffany Allen	Philadelphia, PA	28
Kaleesha Allen	Philadelphia, PA	31

This case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspectors. Upon conviction, the defendants face the following maximums: Detoine Davis faces a maximum statutory sentence of 270 years imprisonment, with a mandatory minimum of at least 2 years imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, and a \$5.5 million fine; Sharon Millsaps and Tiffany Allen each face a maximum statutory sentence of 62 years imprisonment, with a mandatory minimum of at least 2 years imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, and a \$1.5 million fine; and Lamar Ross and Kaleesha Allen each face a maximum statutory sentence of 42 years imprisonment, with a mandatory minimum of at least 2 years imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, and a \$1 million fine.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Nancy Beam Winter.

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